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STRAWBERRY ALLEY WAREHOUSE
MECHANICSBURG, CUMBERLAND CO., PA
EPACRES/CIVIL ENFORCEMENT INVESTIGATION

ATTN: GREGG CRYSTALL, CHARLIE KLEEMAN AND TIM FIELDS
CC: STAN LASKOWSKI
BILL STEUTEVILL (CRES)
CALVIN KIRBY, III (PA DER)

POLREP #1

I. SITUATION (1630 HOURS, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 1989)

A. OSC OWENS NOTIFIED BY CRES (STEUTEVILLE) OF A POTENTIAL THREAT AT THE BAHN WAREHOUSE LOCATED ON 201 E. STRAWBERRY ALLEY IN MECHANICSBURG, PA. THE WAREHOUSE CONTAINS NUMEROUS DRUMS AND CARBOYS OF BOTH PRODUCT AND WASTE MATERIALS.

B. THE WAREHOUSE IS OWNED AND OPERATED BY THE BAHN FAMILY AS A TEMPORARY STORAGE DEPOT. THE BAHN'S LEASED THE WAREHOUSE TO THE COLEBERT BROTHERS OF NEW JERSEY WHO ARE CURRENTLY IN JAIL FOR MAIL FRAUD CHARGES RELATED TO ILLEGAL BUSINESS PRACTICES INVOLVING STORAGE OF SUSPECTED HAZARDOUS WASTES AT THIS AND OTHER WAREHOUSES IN THE COUNTRY. THE NEW JERSEY STATE ATTORNEY GENERALS OFFICE HAS BEEN INVOLVED IN THE LITIGATION/PROSECUTION OF THE COLEBERT BROTHERS FOR THE PAST TWO YEARS AND ASKED THAT STATE AND FEDERAL AGENCIES NOT BECOME INVOLVED UNTIL THE CASE WAS FINISHED.

C. PERSONNEL ON SCENE: EPA-3, TAT-2, PA DER-2, LOCAL-1.

D. WEATHER: MOSTLY CLOUDY WITH PERIODS OF LIGHT RAIN. TEMPS IN THE UPPER 50'S TO 60.

II. ACTIONS TAKEN

A. 11/15/89, 0900 HOURS - OSC OWENS AND TAT MEMBERS SCOTT AND ROSELIUS VISITED THE SITE TO DETERMINE THE EXTENT OF THE THREAT EXISTING IN THE WAREHOUSE. CRES (STEUTEVILLE AND RICHARDSON) ON SCENE TO PERFORM PRP SEARCH AND CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION.

B. 1000 HOURS - WAREHOUSE OPERATOR (PAUL BAHN) ON SCENE TO ALLOW ACCESS TO THE BUILDING.

C. TAT USED DIRECT READING AIR MONITORING INSTRUMENTATION AND CYANIDE DRAEGERS TO DETERMINE IF A FIRE/EXPLOSION THREAT EXISTED WITHIN THE WAREHOUSE AS WELL AS A RESPIRATORY THREAT FOR PERSONNEL ENTERING THE BUILDING.

TAT DETERMINED THAT THE BUILDING WAS SAFE TO ENTER WITHOUT RESPIRATORY PROTECTION.

D. EPA CRES GATHERED INFORMATION FROM HAZARDOUS WASTE LABELS ON SEVERAL DRUMS WHILE TAT PHOTOGRAPHED SITUATIONS WITHIN THE WAREHOUSE THAT POSED POTENTIAL THREATS. PA DER ALSO TOOK SEVERAL PHOTOGRAPHS FOR STATE INVESTIGATION.

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E.TAT MADE LEVEL B ENTRY AND COLLECTED SEVERAL SAMPLES FROM CONSPICUOUS DRUMS TO DETERMINE POTENTIAL THREAT.
F. 1200 HOURS - ALL PERSONNEL DEPARTED SCENE.

G. 1630 HOURS - SAMPLES WERE SENT TO TECHNICAL TESTING LAB IN CHARLESTON, WV FOR IR SCREENING AND RCRA CHARACTERISTIC ANALYSIS. FIVE DAY TURNAROUND EXPECTED ON ANALYTICAL RESULTS.

III. FUTURE PLANS

A. PRP SEARCH TO CONTINUE BY CRES AND EPA CIVIL ENFORCEMENT.

B. ANALYTICAL RESULTS EXPECTED 11/21/89.

C. FURTHER EPA REMOVAL ACTION IS DEPENDENT UPON CRES INVESTIGATION AND ANALYTICAL RESULTS.

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